

FIELD TRIPS OF THE CLUB

TRIP OF OCTOBER 4, 1942, TO RICHMOND, S. I.

Nine members of the Club took this trip. The main objective was the salt marsh, but many interesting plants were seen along the road on the way to the salt marsh. Over a hundred species were pointed out, and about as many more were passed by without mention because they were so familiar. Several members of the group besides the leader were alert in spotting plants, and helpful in identifying them and in making a list, as well as in finding the way out of the woods after leaving the salt marsh.

Some of the easily recognized grasses promised by the Field Chairman were the tall and spreading switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*), the always interesting hispid panicum (*P. clandestinum*), the very delicate old-witch grass (*P. capillare*), tall red top (*Tridens flavus*) with its purplish glumes that rub off black, the graceful and silky Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), the large coarse gama grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*) with its polished jointed spikes, wild rye (*Elymus virginicus*), which, like a cat, resists being petted the wrong way, broom beard grass (*Andropogon scoparius*) with its spreading feathery hairs, Virginia beard grass (*A. virginicus*) and its bushy-headed form *A. glomeratus*, the delicate but savage rice cut-grass (*Leersia oryzoides*), and the bristly-sheathed salt-marsh cockspur grass (*Echinochloa Walteri*).

In or near a brook or road-side ditch were found, not in bloom, water-weed (*Elodea canadensis*), water starwort (*Callitriche palustris*), sweet flag (*Acorus Calamus*) and the hairy variety of swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata* var. *pulchra*), the last in fruit.

Some of the less common trees and shrubs along the road were two somewhat southerly species, clammy locust (*Robinia viscosa*) and false indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*), the latter in fruit; the middle western Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) in fruit; also hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) in fruit, box elder or ash-leaved maple (*Acer Negundo*), and a particularly large specimen of tulip tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*).

A high point on the hill, to which the road led, afforded a good general view of the salt marsh and its creek, with the characteristic winding or crooked form for which genuine *creeks* like this are named.

Eleven species of aster (including *A. paniculatus* and two of its varieties) were seen besides New York aster (*A. novi-belgii*) and the two salt-marsh asters *A. subulatus* and *A. tenuifolius*. Six species of goldenrod were found besides seaside or salt-marsh goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*).

In the moist ground near the salt marsh were found swamp thistle (*Cirsium muticum*), rough thoroughwort (*Eupatorium verbenae-folium*), soapwort gentian (*Gentiana Saponaria*), tall sunflower (*Helianthus giganteus*), ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes cernua*), Culver's-root (*Veronica virginica*) in fruit, and the tiny water pimpernel (*Samolus floribundus*).

Of the real salt-marsh plants the most interesting, besides the few already mentioned, were the two shrubby composites, groundsel tree (*Baccharis halimifolia*) with beautiful plummy white heads on the pistillate plants, and the less showy marsh elder (*Iva oraria*), the red patches of the fleshy glasswort (*Salicornia europaea*), the extensive wiry carpet of the so-called black grass (*Juncus Gerardi*), the dioecious alkali grass (*Distichlis spicata*), the pink-flowered salt-marsh fleabane (*Pluchea camphorata*) with its characteristic aroma, the beautiful and delicate marsh pink (*Sabatia stellaris*), the tall weak unattractive water hemp (*Acnida cannabina*), orach (*Atriplex patula* var. *hastata*) turning red in places, beaked spike rush (*Eleocharis rostellata*) looping its way along, salt-marsh bulrush (*Scirpus robustus*), Olney's bulrush (*S. Olneyi*), the low cord grass (*Spartina patens*), and the tall salt-marsh grass (*S. glabra* var. *alterniflora*—nomenclature of Gray's Manual used here and throughout).

Two characteristic plants known to grow in this salt marsh, but not seen by the group on this trip were a third species of *Spartina*, salt reed grass (*S. cynosuroides*), and the lovely sea lavender (*Limonium carolinianum*).

HESTER M. RUSK

TRIP OF NOVEMBER 15, 1942, TO LAKEWOOD, N. J.

The walk included an old pine barrens bog, dry barrens, and the lake shore. The leader pointed out plants typical of the habitats and others of interest. The most important discovery was made by Mr. A. T. Beals, a moss which was finally identified by Dr. Grout as *Entodon seductrix* var. *minor* (Aust.) Grout. Mr. Beals

writes in part, "This variety is a find (for New Jersey). It is not included in any list I have seen of New Jersey mosses, although it may have been collected previously in that state. The plant is more common further south and was named and described from a specimen found in Georgia."

In the late afternoon Mr. V. L. Frazee arranged for us to visit a Mr. Lecompte who is related to Dr. Knieskern. We saw some of Knieskern's collections.

Attendance: 24. Leader: Mr. James Murphy.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 1942

The meeting was called to order at 8:25 p.m. by the President, Dr. C. Stuart Gager, at the Museum of Natural History. Thirty-two members and friends were present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were accepted as read.

The election of Mr. Mario G. Ferri, Departamento de Botanica, Faculdade de Fiolsofia, Ciencias e Letras, Caixa Postal 2926, Sao Paulo, Brasil, to annual membership was unanimously approved.

The suggestions proposed in the report of the Per Capita Cost Committee were read by Dr. Matzke in the absence of the chairman of the committee.

The scientific program of the evening was presented by Dr. Henry K. Svenson who spoke on the "Vegetation of Western South America." The talk was illustrated with Kodachrome slides which depicted the vegetation, peoples and points of interest in that region.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

HONOR M. HOLLINGHURST
RECORDING SECRETARY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 1942

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by the second Vice-president, Dr. Clyde Chandler in the Members Room of the